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May 12, 2008

## VIA E-MAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Alice M. Fiel, ADR Case Administrator United States District Court - ADR Unit Northern District of California 450 Golden Gate Avenue, 16th Floor San Francisco, CA 94102

> Re: Appointment of Mediator Mr. William F. Abrams in matter Williams-Sonoma v. Cocoon Furnishings, et al. (Case No. C-07-04017 JSW)

Dear Sir/Madam:

On May 5, 2008, Mr. William F. Abrams of Bingham McCutchen was appointed as a mediator in the case referenced above. We would like to disclose two potential conflicts of interests and, pursuant to ADR Local Rule 2-5(d)(4), request the ADR Director to reconsider Mr. Abrams' appointment in light of this information.

First, our client Williams-Sonoma, Inc. ("WSI") is a current client of Bingham McCutchen. Second, Townsend and Townsend and Crew has a co-counsel relationship with Bingham McCutchen regarding a client that Mr. Abrams represented as lead counsel in a trial taking place in October and November 2007.

These relationships between Mr. Abrams as the mediator in this case and a party and its counsel may compromise the parties' ability to have an effective mediation. We therefore ask the ADR Director to reconsider the appointment of Mr. Abrams and, if a conflict of interest is determined, appoint another mediator.

Very truly yours.

Veronica Besmer

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cc: Mr. John H. Mitchell, Esq.

Williams-Sonoma, Inc.

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